(b) whether any of these missiles has been test fired by Pakistan; and

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b) In a press release, Pakistan claimed that it had successfully tested the Anza surface to air missile and the Baktar Shikan anti-tank guided missile on 23rd July, 1997.

(c) Government are carefully and continuously assessing Pakistan's externally aided missile programme and its implications for the country's security. Based on our own threat perceptions, Government are committed to taking all necessary steps to ensure that the national security is not endangered.

Non-Alignment Movement

3483. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether NAM has lost its relevance as a world forum for airing independent views and taking concerted actions on global political issues;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the number of meetings of NAM leaders held after the break-up of the former Soviet Union;

(d) the direction given to the non-alignment movement by these conferences in regard to facing the new global realities and shaping its reactions and formulating its strategy; and

(e) the details of reactions expressed or action taken in respect of world events since the break-up of the former Soviet Union?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA) : (a) to (e) The non-Aligned Movement plays a prominent role in projecting collective views of the developing countries on global political, security, economic, social and environmental issues and continues to have relevance in present international scenario. After the break-up of the former Soviet Union, the Non-Aligned Movement has held two Summit Meetings, in Jakarta, Indonesia in 1992 and in Cartagena, Colombia in 1995. Inter-Summit Ministerial Meetings were held in Cairo in May, 1995 and in New Delhi in April, 1997. Additionally, the NAM Coordinating Bureau meets in New York from time to time, at the level of Permanent Representatives, to attend to urgent work and to review important developments in the international field. The Movement has been given directions to work unitedly for the objective of a new, democratic world order, free from want, fear and intolerance, and built on peace, justice, equality, democracy and respect for the principles of the United Nations, Charter of International Law and International Humanitarian Law. The Movement has closely followed world events since the break-up of the former Soviet Union and the reactions of the Movement are contained in the Final Documents and Declarations issued at the conclusion of the Summit and Ministerial meetings, as well as in Communiques issued from time to time.

[Translation]

Unemployment Allowance

3484. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL :
SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA :

Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any scheme has been formulated or being formulated by the Union Government to provide employment and 'unemployment allowances' to the educated unemployed youths;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government have received any demand, memorandum and proposals from various organisations, political parties during the last five years for providing employment or 'unemployment allowances' to the educated unemployed youths;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the names of the States and Union Territories where 'unemployment allowances' are being provided and the extent thereof; and

(g) the details of funds provided or being provided for the purpose by the Union Government to the State Governments, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. No scheme for unemployed allowance is contemplated. However, this Ministry is implementing two Centrally Sponsored Urban Poverty Eradication Programmes namely, Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY) and Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMIUPEP).

NRY :- Launched in October, 1989 with the objective of generating employment opportunities for the urban poor living below the poverty line. The employment contemplated is of two types : One type relates to providing self-employment by way of assisting beneficiaries in setting-up Micro Enterprises while the other type relates to the generation of wage employment through the creation of useful public assets and also through the housing and shelter upgradation.

PMIUPEP : Launched in November, 95 seeks to address the economic, social and physical dimensions of urban poverty in urban agglomerations with population between 50,000 to 1,00,000 as per the 1991 census and Hill District Town of Hilly/N.E. States with population less than one lakh as per the 1991 census,